	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 1 of 11

04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS

04.10301 Contents


<u>Page</u>	<u>Section</u>	<u>Title</u>
1	04.10302	Scope
1	04.10303	Purpose
2	04.10304	References
2	04.10305	Definitions
3	04.10310	Method
8	04.10399	Exhibits

04.10302 Scope

This method will apply to all proposed projects for the Save Our Rivers (SOR) Program.

04.10303 Purpose

This method outlines the use of the Evaluation Matrix and the Water Resources Project Criteria to screen and categorize prospective additions to the Five Year Plan. It details the actions necessary to prepare the Five Year Plan.

	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 2 of 11

04.10304 References

SFWMD Policy:

Save Our Rivers	04.100
Real Estate Property Acquisitions	04.600
Real Estate Appraisal	04.301
Land Management	05.001

SFWMD Related Documents:

Save Our Rivers Guidelines	04.101
Save Our Rivers Procedures	04.102

Florida Statutes:


Water Management Lands Trust Fund	
Florida Resources River Act	§373.59
Florida Preservation 2000 Act	§259.101

Florida Administrative Code:

Water Management Lands Trust Fund	17-42
Miscellaneous Provisions	40E-7
Save Our Rivers Five Year Plan	40E-7

04.10305 Definitions

Acquisition	Acquiring title to land in fee; or in the discretion of the District, such other legal interest necessary for water management, water supply, or the conservation and protection of water resources.
Board	The Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District.
District	The South Florida Water Management District.
Plan	The Five Year Plan as approved by the Board.
SOR	The Save Our Rivers Program as provided under Section 373.59, Florida Statutes.
SOR Project	A geographical area possessing unique features necessary for water management, water supply, and the conservation and protection of water resources.

	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 3 of 11

04.10310 Method

Performed By: Submitter of Proposed Project

SOR Project Proposal

For SOR project consideration, the SOR Project Proposal Form is completed and submitted to the District. See Exhibit Section (04.10399) for SOR Project Proposal Form.


Performed By: Senior Technical Staff

Land Evaluation Matrix for Natural Resource Projects

Each project is screened by the parameters in Category I first.

Category I.	
Parameter	Weighing Factor
1. Water Management	5
2. Water Supply	5
3. Conservation and Protection of Water Resources	5

After the initial screening is complete, seven additional factors in Category II are evaluated. These include:

	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 4 of 11

Category II.	
Parameter	Weighing Factor
4. Manageability	2
5. Habitat Diversity	2
6. Species Diversity	1
7. Connectedness	2
8. Rarity	1
9. Vulnerability	1
10. Nature Oriented Human Use	1

It is intended that project scoring is conducted by a team of reviewers, each of whom is familiar with all the projects.


Performed By: Senior Technical Staff

SOR Selection Criteria for Water Resource Projects

Criteria

Any land acquisition requires prior Governing Board approval of the subject Plan.

- 1) Proposed project lands are identified in a District Plan such as WUMP or SWIM, and
- 2) Subject lands can be utilized to provide simulated or naturally functioning water resource quality/quantity benefits, and
- 3) Lands can be part of the project resulting in net increase of natural resource value, when considering both on site losses and off site gains, and

	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 5 of 11

- 4) Capital improvements, such as canals, levees, weirs, and pumps are limited to only those necessary to achieve the proposed water resource benefits, and
- 5) All appropriate funding sources for acquisition are identified.

Performed By: Director, Construction and Land Management (CLM)

Project Boundary Modifications

Criteria


Boundary modification to any approved project that is less than five (5) percent of the project area and does not exceed one hundred (100) acres do not require prior Governing Board approval. These modifications are presented to the Governing Board as part of the annual reports.

Performed By: Director, CLM


Preparation of the Five Year Plan

An Acquisition Plan and Status Report are prepared by CLM and presented to the Governing Board annually, or more frequently, if considered necessary by the Board or CLM.

1. The Acquisition Plan includes a written report of the favorable and unfavorable merits of each project selected for acquisition consideration and considers and evaluates in writing:
 - a. An assessment of the project's water management, water supply and conservation values including ecological values, vulnerability, endangerment, and any other related environmental information.
 - b. The public purpose of the project, including the statutory authority.

	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 6 of 11

- c. An assessment of management cost, utilization, ownership, and appraised value estimates.
- d. The determination whether the project conforms with local and state comprehensive plans or any other adopted governmental plans.
- e. The determination whether the project meets one or more of the six criteria for Preservation 2000:
 - 1) A significant portion of the land in the project is in imminent danger of development.
 - 2) A significant portion of land in the project is in imminent danger of subdivision which will result in multiple ownership and may make acquisition of the project more costly or less likely to be accomplished.
 - 3) The value of a significant portion of the land in the project is likely to appreciate at a rate that makes purchasing the land immediately with bond proceeds more cost-effective than delaying its purchase until acquisition funds which are not bonded are available for the project.
 - 4) A significant portion of the land in the project serves to protect or recharge groundwater and to protect other valuable natural resources or provide space for natural resource-based recreation.
 - 5) The project can be purchased at 80 percent of appraised value or less.
 - 6) A significant portion of the land in the project serves as habitat for endangered or threatened species or serves to protect endangered natural communities.

	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 7 of 11

f. Potential management options

The Plan identifies land needed to protect or recharge groundwater and establishes a plan for the acquisition as necessary to protect potable water supplies. These lands also serve to protect other valuable resources or provide space for natural resource-based recreation. The Five Year Plan report includes a detailed summary of acquisition activity, modification, or additions to the Acquisition Plan and a description of all land management activity.

2. Board Consideration of the Five Year Plan

As a minimum, the Board reviews all proposed projects and current projects on an annual basis. The Board annually adopts an update on the Five Year Plans and after adoption, the projects approved are incorporated in a report which is made available to the public. The Board recognizes that the Five Year Plan is a list of projects that qualify for the program. Projects included on the Five Year Plan are not necessarily acquired.


	■ METHODS ■	Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION			Last Revision Date 01/15/97
				Page 8 of 11

Exhibit 04.10399(1)

SOR PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM

Please return ten copies of this form with ten copies of all referenced attachments to:

Director, Land Stewardship Division
 South Florida Water Management District
 P.O. Box 24680
 West Palm Beach, Florida 33416-4680

Please complete every question on this form. If necessary, designate N/A where a question is not applicable.
 Complete applications will receive more prompt and complete attention.

A. General Information

1. Name and Location

Property Name (commonly known as)

County (or counties)

Within Municipal Boundaries - Yes ___ No ___. Please attach a location map (82 by 11") specifying the property location and include a north arrow (map drawn to scale if possible); also please provide with any additional property maps or aerial photography which may further clarify the suggested product.

2. Size

Estimated Number of Acres _____

Estimated Number of Parcels _____

Estimated Acreage per parcel _____

3. Access

Does the property front on a public road? Yes ___ No ___

If not, describe type of legal access. _____

4. Ownership Information

Identify the property owner(s) and the contact address and telephone number (if available).


	■ METHODS ■	Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION	Last Revision Date 01/15/97		
		Page 9 of 11		

Exhibit 04.10399(1)

5. Survey Information

Are surveys and/or legal descriptions available? _____
If so, attach or specify where they may be obtained _____

6. Title Information

Are abstracts available from owner(s)? Yes ____ No ____
Do/Does owner(s) have title insurance policies? Yes ____ No ____

7. Buildings

Describe types and occupancy, if any: _____

8. General History Influences

What are the historical and archaeological values of the property?

Provide a description of general history of the property; include the identification of significant past disturbances, both natural and human; include dates of storm damage, fires, floods, exotic infestations, farming, grazing, mowing, or other site disturbances; also describe any structures, roads, rails, fences, etc.; is land involved in litigation (if yes, specify); is land on other public land acquisition lists (if yes, specify program, and agency).

9. Planning and Zoning

Indicate local zoning and land use designation (from future land use map) on each parcel.

Identify any other adopted state, regional and local plans that may affect the project; is it compatible with the State Water Use Plan?

B. Evaluation Data/Information: For projects to be evaluated on natural and water resources attributes.

1. Natural Characteristics

Provide a description of the natural characteristics of the property, including the predominant plant and animal life; specify types of trees and percentage of coverage, types of animal life, any rare, or endangered or threatened species, identified by federal or state programs or unique geological features, etc.


	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 10 of 11

Exhibit 04.10399(1)

2. Provide information on reports prepared by any other agencies on the physical and ecological characteristics of the property; if possible, attach a copy of the report.

3. Describe the water resources of the project in terms of:
 - a) Flood storage management/watershed function
 - b) Water supply protection
 - c) Conservation and protection of water resources for environmental uses
4. Provide comments/information on the following additional areas:
 - a) Manageability - access, exotics, infrastructure, maintenance
 - b) Habitat diversity - number, extent and quality of habitat type
 - c) Species diversity
 - d) Connectedness - part of larger system; other existing/planned project
 - e) Rarity - uniqueness of property
 - f) Vulnerability - threat of development

5. Are funds available from other sources for land acquisition? Please list source and amount

6. Who are the proposed managers? What will be the source and level of management funding?

C. Evaluation Data/Information: For projects to be evaluated on water resource benefits.

1. General Description of how proposed project land will be used to benefit water resources of the area/region.

2. Describe how proposed design features utilize natural functions to protect/preserve water resources, directly or indirectly.

3. Show net increase of natural resource benefits by any capital improvement planned for the project such as canals, levees, or water control structures.

4. How are any such capital improvements being limited? Show use of natural functions in place of structural solutions.


	■ METHODS ■		Unit 1160	Revision 00	Original Effective Date 11/01/85
	SUBJECT 04.10300 SAVE OUR RIVERS PROJECT EVALUATION AND SELECTION				Last Revision Date 01/15/97
					Page 11 of 11

Exhibit 04.10399(1)

5. What specific studies or plans have been completed to support this project? Where these studies/plans approved? By whom? When?

6. What are the sources and levels of funding for this project?

Design _____

Land Acquisition _____

Construction _____

Operation _____

D. Attachments

Identify and label each attachment (with boundaries notes). Suggested attachments may include: zoning maps, soil maps, ownership maps, aerial photographs, vegetative maps, water resource maps, endangered species maps, on-site photographs and U.S.G.S. Quadrangle maps.

AttachmentA: _____

AttachmentB: _____

AttachmentC: _____

AttachmentD: _____

AttachmentE: _____

It is the policy of the Governing Board that inclusion of a property within the Five Year Plan pursuant to Section 373.59, F.S. does not reflect a definite intention by the South Florida Water Management District to acquire said property. Inclusion within the Five Year Plan indicates that the subject property has acquisition potential, depending upon further investigation as to its environmental and management features and the negotiation of a mutually acceptable acquisition price.

E. Form Completed by:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: () _____

Please state affiliation to owner(s): _____
